

Memorandum

Date: June 17, 2022

From: Alan Veerman
Chief Operations Officer

To: All Vector Institute Researchers and Staff

RE: COVID-19 Masking Requirements – June 2022

The Vector Institute occupies offices in both the MaRS Centre and at 700 University Ave., and the landlords for both of these properties have recently made changes to their COVID-19 policies, which are described below:

Vector Institute – MaRS Centre, 7th Floor, West Tower

Effective Monday June 13, 2022, masks are no longer required to enter the MaRS Centre West Tower and its common areas e.g., bathrooms, corridors, elevators, food court, and stairways.

The only exceptions to this policy are for the Princess Margaret Cancer Research Tower (east tower), loading dock, and mailroom, although both the loading dock and mail room are not generally accessed by the Vector Institute's community.

Elevators on multi-tenant floors, including the seventh floor of the West Tower where Vector is located, have also returned to free access between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm EST from Monday to Friday – individuals will no longer be required to use an access card to reach the seventh floor during those times.

As a result of this change in MaRS's building policy, the Vector Institute will mirror the policy change in its own offices—masks will no longer be mandatory in the communal areas of the Vector Institute.

Vector West – 700 University Avenue, 17th Floor

The University of Toronto has indicated that masks will no longer be required on campus and University of Toronto buildings as of July 1, 2022. This change will include Vector West, as the 17th floor of University Avenue is a University of Toronto space.

As a result of this change in UofT policy, the Vector Institute will mirror the policy change in its own offices—masks will no longer be mandatory in the communal areas of Vector West as at July 1, 2022.

Vector Institute COVID-19 Vaccination Policy & Attestation Form

The Vector Institute will maintain its [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy](#) until further notice.

As described in the Policy, it is expected that this Policy will remain in effect until at least the end of the global COVID-19 pandemic, as determined by a competent authority and confirmed by Vector.

Therefore, any visitor to the Vector Institute must complete *the Vector Institute's* [COVID-19 Self Attestation Form](#) prior to their arrival at either of the Vector Institute's offices.

General Conduct

As a reminder, although social distancing is no longer required when booking a desk, all of Vector's community are asked to consider the individual needs and preferences of others in the office when booking a desk, choosing a seat in the kitchen, or conducting in-person meetings.

Moreover, some individuals may choose to continue wearing a face mask, and the Vector Institute respects these choices. Any harassment or intimidation of an individual that chooses to continue wearing a mask will be treated as a breach of [Vector's Code of Conduct](#).

Preventative health and safety measures, including the requirement to wipe down shared surfaces after use, and hand hygiene guidelines also remain in effect for all access cardholders and any visitors to the offices.

In addition to supporting our public health, these preventative health and safety measures support the general cleanliness of Vector and make it a more welcoming space for our diverse community.